

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for managing a project, the method comprising:

5 creating at least one phase for the project;

identifying which of one or more stored exit criteria are applicable to at least one of the phases of the project;

10 establishing the identified one or more stored exit criteria for the at least one phase, the one or more exit criteria based at least partially on experience gained from one or more prior projects;

15 determining whether each of the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase; and

enabling the project to advance to a next one of the phases based on the determination of whether each of the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase.

20 2. The method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising modifying

one or more of the identified one or more stored exit criteria to accommodate for project requirements.

25 3. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the enabling further comprises enabling the project to advance if the determination indicates that at least one of the identified one or more exit criteria have been satisfied.

4. The method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising tracking one

or more problems noted for the project.

30 5. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the determining

whether each of the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied

for the at least one phase further comprises:

monitoring progress of portions of the at least one phase of the project related to the identified one or more stored exit criteria; and

determining if the portions related to the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been performed, wherein the enabling is also based on the determining if the portions related to the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been performed.

6. The method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising making information regarding the project accessible through at least one Web page provided to one or more project participants, the information being accessible to each of the project participants depending upon their role in the project.

7. A project management system comprising:
an interface system that creates at least one phase for the project;
an identification system that identifies which of one or more stored exit criteria are applicable to at least one of the phases of the project;
a phase establishing system that establishes the identified one or more stored exit criteria for the at least one phase, the one or more exit criteria based at least partially on experience gained from one or more prior projects;
a determination system that determines whether each of the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase; and
an advancement system that enables the project to advance to a next one of the phases based on the determination of whether each of the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase.

8. The system as set forth in claim 7 wherein the interface system modifies one or more of the identified one or more stored exit criteria to accommodate for project requirements.

9. The system as set forth in claim 7 wherein the advancement system enables the project to advance if the determination indicates that at least one of the identified one or more exit criteria have been satisfied.

5 10. The system as set forth in claim 7 further comprising a problem tracking system that tracks one or more problems noted for the project.

10 11. The system as set forth in claim 7 wherein the determination system monitors progress of portions of the at least one phase of the project related to the identified one or more stored exit criteria, and determines if the portions related to the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been performed, wherein the advancement system enables the project to advance based on the determining if the portions related to the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been performed.

15 12. The system as set forth in claim 7 wherein the interface system makes information regarding the project accessible through at least one Web page provided to one or more project participants, the information being accessible to each of the project participants depending upon their role in the project.

20 13. A computer readable medium having stored thereon instructions for managing a project which when executed by one or more processors, causes the processors to perform:

25 creating at least one phase for the project;
identifying which of one or more stored exit criteria are applicable to at least one of the phases of the project;
establishing the identified one or more stored exit criteria for the at least one phase;
determining whether each of the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase; and

enabling the project to advance to a next one of the phases based on the determination of whether each of the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase.

5 14. The medium as set forth in claim 13 further comprising modifying one or more of the identified one or more stored exit criteria to accommodate for project requirements.

10 15. The medium as set forth in claim 13 wherein the enabling further comprises enabling the project to advance if the determination indicates that at least one of the identified one or more exit criteria have been satisfied.

15 16. The medium as set forth in claim 13 wherein the determining further comprises tracking one or more problems noted for the project.

17. The medium as set forth in claim 13 wherein the determining whether each of the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase further comprises:

monitoring progress of portions of the at least one phase of the project related to the identified one or more stored exit criteria; and
determining if the portions related to the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been performed, wherein the enabling is also based on the determining if the portions related to the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been performed.

25 18. The medium as set forth in claim 13 further comprising making information regarding the project accessible through at least one Web page provided to one or more project participants, the information being accessible to each of the project participants depending upon their role in the project.

30 19. A method for managing a project, the method comprising:

identifying one or more project requirements;
creating a project strategy;
defining a time schedule based upon the project strategy;
identifying and creating one or more project phases within the
5 project;
integrating the one or more phases with the time schedule;
identifying which of one or more stored exit criteria are applicable
to at least one of the phases of the project;
establishing the identified one or more stored exit criteria for the at
10 least one phase;
determining whether each of the identified one or more stored exit
criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase; and
implementing the project by enabling the project to advance to a
next one of the phases based on the determination of whether each of the
15 identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one
phase.

20. The method as set forth in claim 19 further comprising basing the
one or more exit criteria at least partially on experience gained from one or more
prior projects.

25. The method as set forth in claim 19 further comprising tracking one
or more problems noted for the project.

22. The method as set forth in claim 19 further comprising making
information regarding the project accessible through at least one Web page
provided to one or more project participants, the information being accessible to
each of the project participants depending upon their role in the project.

30. A project management system comprising:

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a project requirements system that identifies one or more project requirements;

a strategy creation system that creates a project strategy;

5 a time schedule system that defines a time schedule based upon the project strategy;

a project phase system that identifies and creates one or more phases within the project;

10 a project integration system that integrates the one or more phases with the time schedule;

a project identification system that identifies which of one or more stored exit criteria are applicable to at least one of the phases of the project;

15 a phase establishing system that establishes the identified one or more stored exit criteria for the at least one phase;

a determination system that determines whether each of the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase; and

20 a project implementation system that implements the project by enabling the project to advance to a next one of the phases based on the determination of whether each of the identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase.

24. The system as set forth in claim 23 wherein the phase establishing system bases the one or more exit criteria on experience gained from one or more prior projects.

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25. The system as set forth in claim 23 further comprising a tracking system that tracks one or more problems noted for the project.

30 26. The system as set forth in claim 23 wherein the interface system makes information regarding the project accessible through at least one Web page

provided to one or more project participants, the information being accessible to each of the project participants depending upon their role in the project.

27. A computer readable medium having stored thereon instructions for
5 managing a project which when executed by one or more processors, causes the
processors to perform:

10 identifying one or more project requirements;
creating a project strategy;
defining a time schedule based upon the project strategy;
identifying and creating one or more project phases within the
project;
integrating the one or more phases with the time schedule;
identifying which of one or more stored exit criteria are applicable
to at least one of the phases of the project;
15 establishing the identified one or more stored exit criteria for the at
least one phase;
determining whether each of the identified one or more stored exit
criteria have been satisfied for the at least one phase; and
implementing the project by enabling the project to advance to a
20 next one of the phases based on the determination of whether each of the
identified one or more stored exit criteria have been satisfied for the at least one
phase.

28. The medium as set forth in claim 27 further comprising basing the
25 one or more exit criteria at least partially on experience gained from one or more
prior projects.

29. The medium as set forth in claim 27 further comprising tracking
one or more problems noted for the project.

30. The medium as set forth in claim 27 further comprising making information regarding the project accessible through at least one Web page provided to one or more project participants, the information being accessible to each of the project participants depending upon their role in the project.